



CT-PHCC

PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING CONTRACTORS OF CONNECTICUT

**TESTIMONY
BOB MACCA
LEGISLATIVE CHAIR
CT PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
LABOR COMMITTEE
MARCH 3, 2009**

The Connecticut Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Association (CT-PHCC) **supports SB-978, AN ACT REQUIRING OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING FOR CERTAIN STATE EMPLOYEES**, which requires certain state employees, employed after July 1, 2009, to acquire occupational licenses.

Occupational licensing ensures that individuals have the skills and training needed to perform work in the skilled trades. This protects consumers and employees from potentially unsafe and life threatening situations. State employees who perform work, such as electrical or plumbing work, should be required to demonstrate proficiency in these skills by obtaining the requisite licenses.

We also support efforts to amend this bill to clarify that certain work involving process piping must be performed by licensed plumbers. This is consistent with efforts adopted in 2005, which required individuals performing work on process piping used in the food and chemical industries to be properly licensed.

The nature of this work mandates that individuals who install this product should be properly trained and licensed. Process piping involves, high-pressure steam, high-pressure air and water. It involves systems which, under any other circumstances, would require licensure in order to install or repair.

Allowing unlicensed contractors to perform this type of work exposes these individuals to potentially unsafe situations.

CT-PHCC therefore urges lawmakers to **support SB-978, with the suggested revisions.**

CT-PHCC is a not-for-profit trade association that represents the professional plumbing, heating and cooling contractors in the state of Connecticut. CT-PHCC and its members are committed to protecting the health and safety of the public. Contractors who belong to the association have demonstrated reliability and trustworthiness and are licensed by the state of Connecticut.